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COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
FISH AND GAME COMMISSION
<http://Fishandgame.lacountycommissions.info/>

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, B-50
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 974-1431 Fax (213) 633-5102

MINUTES

Thursday, April 9, 2009 Meeting
6:00 p.m.

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration Room 374-A

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

John Hybarger, Chairperson
Timothy Jones, Vice-Chair
Sandra Aronberg
Greg Bombard
Brad Nuremberg

STAFF PRESENT

Janice A. Davis
Garen Khachian

INVITED GUESTS

John Ballotti, President, Los Angeles Rod and Reel Club
Nicholas Bechtel, Special Hunt Coordinator, State Department of Fish & Game
Craig Shuman, Public Outreach and Education Coordinator, Marine Life Protection Act
Ken Wiseman, Executive Director, Marine Life Protection Act

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Hybarger called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 8, 2009 MINUTES

On motion of Commissioner Aronberg, seconded by, the Vice-Chair Jones the Commission unanimously approved the January 8, 2009 minutes as presented.

STAFF REPORT

There was none.

REVIEW OF FINANCIAL REPORT

Staff reported that the Fish and Game Commission fund balance is \$108,411.41.

On motion of Vice-Chair Jones, seconded by the Commissioner Bombard the Commission unanimously received and filed the financial report.

PRESENTATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING GRANT APPLICATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,000 SUBMITTED BY MR. RON BEASON, REPRESENTING U.S. SPORTSMEN'S ALLIANCE FOUNDATION, PERTAINING TO FUNDING FOR THE "TRAILBLAZER ADVENTURE PROGRAM" TO INTRODUCE NONTRADITIONAL FAMILIES TO AMERICA'S OUTDOOR HERITAGE

On motion of Commissioner Aronberg, seconded by Commissioner Bombard, the Commission unanimously denied the grant request in the amount of \$5,000 funding for the "Trailblazer Adventure Program".

Commissioner Nuremberg joined the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

SUMMARY PRESENTATION REGARDING "THE 2008 GAME BIRD HERITAGE PROGRAM"

Mr. Nick Bechtel, Special Hunt Coordinator, State Department of Fish & Game, distributed copies of the "2008 Game Bird Heritage (GBH) Apprentice Hunts Program for Los Angeles County Report" and reported following:

- The 2008 pheasant hunting season was the first year "Game Bird Heritage" used the new on-line application on the State Department of Fish and Game's Website. The on-line process allows applicants to apply for "Game Bird Heritage Special Hunts" using the website.
- Twelve (12) "Special Pheasant Hunts" were held at Peace Valley in 2008, (9 Family Hunts, and 3 Junior Hunts).
- Volunteers from "Santa Clarita Quail Unlimited" helped to make the "2008 Game Bird Heritage Program" a safe and successful season.

DISCUSSION REGARDING STOCKING OF FISH AT "MAGIC JOHNSON PARK LAKE" BY MR. BRIAN YOUNG, STATE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

Chair Hybarger, gave the following report:

- Los Angeles County Public Health Officials are warning the public against eating fish from the "Magic Johnson Park Lake" in South Los Angeles. Recent tests revealed the water and fish in the lake may contain contaminants above the levels considered safe for human consumption. Signs have been posted throughout the park.

PRESENTATION REGARDING “THE MARINE LIFE PROTECTION ACT” BY MR. CRAIG SHUMAN AND MS. KELLY E. SAYCE, MAS CALIFORNIA MLPA INITIATIVE PUBLIC OUTREACH AND EDUCATION COORDINATOR

Mr. Craig Shuman, Public Outreach and Education Coordinator and Ken Wiseman, Executive Director of Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA), distributed handouts and then gave a presentation regarding MLPA.

- The MLPA is a State Law that requires California’s system of marine protected areas be redesigned to better protect California’s marine life, habitats and echo system.
- California’s first marine protected area was created in 1909. There are now 47 marine protected areas in Southern California. Existing marine protected areas are part of the redesign process.
- The MLPA Initiative is a public-private partnership designed to help the State of California implement the MLPA using the best, readily available science, as well as the advice and assistance of scientists, resource managers, experts, stakeholders and members of the public.

Marine Life Protection Act Goals include:

- The protection of the natural diversity and abundance of marine life, and the structure, function, and integrity of marine ecosystems.
- Helping sustain, conserve, and protect marine life populations, including those of economic value, and rebuild those that are depleted.
- Improving recreational, educational, and study opportunities provided by marine ecosystems that are subject to minimal human disturbance, and to manage these uses in a manner consistent with protecting biodiversity.
- Protecting marine natural heritage, including protection of representative and unique marine life habitats in California waters for their intrinsic value.
- Ensuring that California’s MPAs have defined objectives, effective management measures, and adequate enforcement, and are based on sound scientific guidelines.

Time line of MPLA South Coast study Region from June 2008 – December 2009:

- Public planning Process begins. Joint fact-finding and evaluation of existing marine protected area begins. (June – December 2008)
- Develop and review draft marine protected area proposals. (January – September 2009)

- Marine protected area proposals are recommended and a preferred alternative is selected. (September – October 2009)
- A marine area proposal is recommended and the regulatory and environmental review processes begin. (November – December 2009)

Mr. John Ballotti, President of the Los Angeles Rod and Reel Club stated the process is encouraging due to the diversity, openness and the dedication of the people involved.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

- Commissioner Bombard met with Lieutenant Smirl of the State Department of Fish and Game to discuss establishing a Senior Volunteer Program at Cabrillo Beach.
- Vice-Chairman Jones attended the "Safari Club International Event" sponsored by Sportsman Channel at the Union Rescue Mission and served "Elk Chili" to the homeless.

Chair Hybarger gave the following report:

- The "Bighorn Sheep Census" volunteers from Cattleman Canyon above Ontario to the Lytle Creek area reported seeing fifty (50) sheep. A helicopter crew that scoured the region counted 202 of the elusive animals. Jeff Villepique, Wildlife Biologist from the State Department of Fish and Game, indicated the numbers are encouraging.
- Los Angeles County Supervisors have instructed Officials to draft new regulations for dog breeding kennels because of the finding of puppy mills in the Antelope Valley area.

MATTERS NOT ON THE POSTED AGENDA (TO BE PRESENTED AND PLACED ON THE AGENDA OF A FUTURE MEETING)

There was none.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was none.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on motion of Vice-Chair Jones and seconded by Commissioner Aronberg, the meeting was adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice A. Davis
Commission Services Division